

REMARKS

Status of the Claims

Claims 1-25 are now present in this application, of which claim 1 is independent. By this amendment claim 25 has been added and claims 1, 5, 6, 8, and 17 have been amended.

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

The Examiner has not acknowledged Applicants' claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119, and receipt of the certified priority document. Acknowledgment thereof by the Examiner in the next Office Action is respectfully requested.

Information Disclosure Citation

Each of the Information Disclosure Statements filed by Applicants to date has been considered by the Examiner, and initialed PTO-SB08 forms have been provided by the Examiner. Therefore, no outstanding issues remain with respect to the consideration of the Information Disclosure Statements.

Election of Species Requirement

The Examiner has made the Election of Species Requirement final, and has withdrawn claims 10-24 from further consideration. Applicants have not canceled these non-elected claims because each of these claims depends, either directly or indirectly, from independent generic claim 1, which is believed to be allowable. Upon allowance of independent claim 1, Applicants respectfully request examination and allowance of these withdrawn claims.

After further consideration, Applicants respectfully submit that dependent claims 17-19 also read on elected Species I. Accordingly, Applicants request consideration of claims 17-19 by the Examiner in response to this Amendment.

Objection to the Drawings

The Office Action transmittal indicates that the drawings are not acceptable; however, the Office Action fails to identify any deficiency. Because no objection has been received,

Applicants assume that the drawings are acceptable and that no further action is necessary. Confirmation thereof in the next Office Action is respectfully requested.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-5, 8, 9, 17-18, 22-23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by El-Hamamsy. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

A complete discussion of the Examiner's rejection is set forth in the Office Action, and is not being repeated here. Applicants note that El-Hamamsy was not listed on Form PTO-892 and request that it be so listed in the next communication from the U.S. Patent Office.

Applicants respectfully request clarification because the Examiner has stated that claims 10-24 have been withdrawn from consideration; however, the Office Action appears to suggest that claims 17, 18, 22, and 23 were considered. Clearly this would indicate that it was not burdensome to consider more than one species as the Examiner has previously indicated.

While not conceding the appropriateness of the Examiner's rejection, but merely to advance prosecution of the instant application, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claim 1 has been amended to recite a combination of elements in a cooling structure for a plasma lighting system including "a case in which inner components are mounted" and "a fan housing having at least one inlet port and at least two discharge ports having different discharge flow rates for discharging introduced external air into the case with different flow rates from each other in order to cool heat generation components in the case by introducing external air in the case."

Applicants respectfully submit that this combination of elements as set forth in independent claim 1 is not disclosed or made obvious by the prior art of record, including El-Hamamsy.

The Examiner states that El-Hamamsy discloses at least two discharge ports (A, B, and 82 as seen in the marked-up figure identified in the Office Action) having different discharge flow rates. Applicants respectfully submit that this interpretation of El-Hamamsy is improper because port A of El-Hamamsy is an inlet port and port B is a duct for introducing air from inlet port A and providing the air to apertures 82. See the marked-up Fig. 1 in the Office Action and col. 5, ll. 22-30 of El-Hamamsy.

Moreover, the apertures 82, as shown in Figs. 2 and 3A, have the same diameter and are evenly spaced about a circle. Therefore, any air flow provided through the apertures 82 would have the same flow rate. Consequently, El-Hamamsy fails to teach or suggest all features of amended claim 1.

Applicants respectfully submit that the combination of elements as set forth in independent claim 1 is not disclosed or made obvious by the prior art of record, including El-Hamamsy, for the reasons explained above. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

With regard to dependent claims 2-5, 8, 9, 17-18, 22-23, Applicants submit that these claims depend, either directly or indirectly, from independent claim 1, which is allowable for the reasons set forth above, and therefore these claims are allowable based on their dependence from claim 1, as well as for their additionally recited subject matter.

For example, the Office Action has failed to identify any features of El-Hamamsy that correspond to the claimed prolonged ducts at the discharge ports, and that at least one of the prolonged ducts is composed of a distribution duct having two discharge ports. Reconsideration and allowance thereof are respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner states that claims 6 and 7 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the early indication of allowable subject matter in this application; however, claims 6 and 7 have not been rewritten in independent form at this time, because it is believed that independent claim 1 from which these claims depend is allowable.

Claim 25

Claim 25 has been added for the Examiner's consideration. Applicants submit that claim 25 depends from independent claim 1, and is therefore allowable based on its dependence from claim 1, which is believed to be allowable.

In addition, claim 25 recites further limitations which are not disclosed or made obvious by the applied prior art references.

Consideration and allowance of claim 25 is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding rejections and that they be withdrawn. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance.

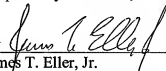
In view of the above amendment, Applicants believe the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Chad D. Wells, Registration No. 50,875 at the telephone number of the undersigned below to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Director is hereby authorized to charge any fees required during the pendency of the above-identified application or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448.

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Respectfully submitted,

By 
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